

passed on to homeowners and businesses. As a result, this provision could have the unintended affect of increasing costs on energy consumers.

By potentially expanding CFTC authority beyond that established in the 2000, serious questions have been raised about CEA's scope and construction and the potential impact these new changes may have on energy consumers, investors, and industry participants. As this legislation heads to conference, I urge my colleagues to thoroughly discuss and address these issues and concerns so that we can be confident that our Nation's capital markets remain strong and vibrant.

TRIBUTE TO SCOTT TUCKER

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2005

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, we rise today to honor Scott Tucker, of Petaluma, California. On January 1, 2006, Scott will officially retire after 13 years as the San Francisco District Manager, and 38 years with the United States Postal Service. He is the longest serving postal service executive at any major metropolitan area in consecutive years.

Mr. Tucker's career with the United States Postal Service began in 1968 in Hanford, California as a letter carrier. He held a succession of managerial positions in postal operations, until in September 1992, he was appointed to his current position as the San Francisco District Manager.

As the District Manager, Scott is responsible on a daily basis for the delivery of approximately 10 million pieces of mail to 3 million customers throughout northwest California that ranges from Sunnyvale in the south to the Oregon Border in the north. He supervises a workforce of 10,400 mail carriers, mail handlers, mail clerks, postmasters, and operations managers. In the North Bay we have grown to approximately 3,000 employees spread throughout 205 postal facilities under Scott's leadership.

The San Francisco postal district has for nine consecutive quarters, under Scott's leadership, received the "Order of Yellow Jersey" award for excellence in customer satisfaction and commitment to professionalism. The district has been repeatedly recognized by IBM's Business Consulting Services Unit, as one of the best on-time mail services for any metropolitan area in the Nation.

In the past 13 years, Scott has helped increase awareness of multicultural groups within the district. Under his leadership, numerous diversity leadership advisory councils were established including the Women's Council, African American Council, Asian American/Pacific Island Council, and the Hispanic Council. The Bay Area Federal Executive Board recognized his efforts and presented him with a diversity leadership achievement award.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that we honor Scott Tucker today for the years he has dedicated to consistently improving upon how we all receive our mail. The San Francisco District of the United States Postal Service employees and customers will greatly miss him. He has left some very big shoes to fill.

TRIBUTE TO FRANKLIN REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL PANTHERS FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2005

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Franklin Regional High School Panthers Football team for winning the Western Pennsylvanian Interscholastic Athletic League (WPIAL) 2005 AAA Championship.

The Panthers have had an excellent season with a record of 14 wins. The team, under the leadership of head coach Greg Botta, have worked incredibly hard in the season, and off season, to earn the title of WPIAL.

The Panthers travel to Central Pennsylvania on December 9, 2005 to battle the Pottsville Area High School Tide for the AAA State Champion title. The game will take place at Hershey Park Stadium at 7 pm.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the Franklin Regional High School Varsity Football team. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute the determined scholar-athletes, like the Panthers, and their dedicated coaching staff.

PATRIOT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. RICHARD W. POMBO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 14, 2005

Mr. POMBO. Madam Speaker, yesterday the House passed the conference report to H.R. 3199, reauthorizing the Patriot Act. While much has already been said about the national security aspects of this report, I would like to commend my colleagues for including the Combat Meth Act in the report. The meth epidemic is sweeping the nation, and has become a major law enforcement problem in California's 11th District.

All the law enforcement officers I meet with tell me that meth is the number one problem they face today. From manufacturers to dealers, and the attendant social crimes they create, meth is devastating communities across the country. Methamphetamine production and distribution leads to murders, assaults and property crimes. Additionally, there is an associated increase in domestic abuse, prostitution, child abuse and neglect, and homelessness. The provisions included in H.R. 3199 are a positive development in the fight against this scourge.

H.R. 3199 will repeal the so-called "blister pack exemption," which currently allows the sale of unlimited quantities of pseudoephedrine. Pseudoephedrine and other major precursor chemicals in meth production will now be classified as "Schedule Listed Chemicals" with a daily purchase limit of 3.6 grams. These drugs will now be kept in locked cabinets or behind the counter at drug stores and other retailers. These measures will help reduce the manufacture of meth in the United States.

As meth is an international problem, the bill contains provisions for international monitoring, and funding for cooperative efforts with Mexico, a source of much of the meth in California. It also strengthens federal penalties against meth smugglers and traffickers.

Finally, there is language to clarify that employers registered under the Controlled Substances Act may ask prospective employees about prior drug convictions, as a safeguard to ensure that people with access to controlled substances do not pose risks to the public welfare. This clarification is necessary to stop the diversion of drugs from pharmacies for illegal purposes. Currently, in many states, employers are not allowed to ask this critical question.

Madam Speaker, as a member of the Methamphetamine Caucus, I applaud the passage of this important language. While we still have a long way to go in the war on meth, this is certainly a step in the right direction.

TRIBUTE TO MR. MEL KING

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2005

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert "Sonny" Smith who was recently inducted into the Babe Ruth Baseball Hall of Fame. Babe Ruth Baseball was started as a "grass roots" movement in the small, rural communities of Colorado. The town of Las Animas is no exception, and like most towns, the Babe Ruth program has flourished because of the efforts and actions of volunteers like Sonny who stepped up to the plate to serve others.

Sonny's involvement with Babe Ruth began around 1982. He was the District 2 Commissioner for 10 years and then became the Assistant State Commissioner for the 15 year-old Babe Ruth program. He has held that position from 1992 to the present time.

Sonny has not just been active in Babe Ruth in his community, but in other endeavors as well. He was the Las Animas Ball Association Vice President from 1978–1980. He served as a Las Animas City Councilman from 1982–1986 and was the chairman for the Parks and Swimming Pool committees. Sonny was a member of the Las Animas School Board from 1996–2000. He has been a member of the Bent County Recreation Committee from 1978 to the present time. He served on the St. Mary's Catholic Church Council from 1988–1992, and he has served as a football, baseball, softball, and basketball official from 1978 to the present time.

One of Sonny's most notable achievements was his work on the Ad Hoc Committee for building the new baseball field in Las Animas from 1998–2004. This field has hosted many area tournaments, as well as the local Babe Ruth League games.

Where does this man get the energy to accomplish these feats? I believe it comes from a strong desire to see the young people in his community and around the state have an opportunity to participate and excel in the great game of baseball.

Sonny has been a very valuable member of the Colorado Babe Ruth League, Inc. management team. His good-natured attitude and